

FOURTH DIVISION MEMORIAL

Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington Memorial Drive,
Arlington, Virginia

Report to the National Park Service

July 1, 1999

Abstract

The National Park Service on behalf of the National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association has submitted plans for preliminary and final approval of the Fourth Infantry Division Memorial. The memorial was authorized by a joint resolution of Congress on August 24, 1935. The memorial will be located within one of the nine niches of the holly hedge that flanks Arlington Memorial Drive in Arlington National Cemetery. It will be compatible with, and add to the visual rhythm established by other memorials located within niches of the holly hedge.

Authority

Public Resolution 24-55 and Sec. 5 of the National Capital Planning Act of 1952, as amended (40 U.S. C. 71d).

Commission Action

The Commission **approves** the preliminary and final site and building plans design for the 4th Infantry Division Memorial, Arlington Memorial Drive, Arlington, Virginia, as shown on NCPC Map File No.1.61 (73.10)-40656.

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BACKGROUND AND STAFF EVALUATION

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

The National Park Service (NPS) submits on behalf of the 4th Infantry Division (FDMA), preliminary and final plans for the 4th Infantry Division Memorial. The memorial was authorized by a joint resolution of Congress on August 24, 1935. According to the FDMA, a series of world events (World War I, World War II, Korean War, Cold War Era and Vietnam) have delayed the erection of the memorial.

The Site

- The site of the proposed memorial is within one of the undeveloped niches of the holly hedge along Arlington Memorial Drive. This niche is one of the eventual nine niches along the hedge. It is located on the south side of the Drive and is approximately 300 feet west of the entrance to the Arlington National Cemetery Metro Station.
- The niche will be approximately 40 feet long and 14 feet wide.

Design Concept

- The memorial design includes a bronze sculpture mounted on a dark green granite base. The base is approximately 21 feet long, seven feet wide and two feet high. It will also serve as a planter for ivy planted in soils obtained from 4th Infantry Division battle sites. Additionally the base will eventually contain regimental plaques and the 4th Division motto “Steadfast and loyal”, as well as significant dates.
- The bronze sculptural element is a three-dimensional representation of the Division’s shoulder sleeve insignia the insignia contains four ivy leaves oriented toward the corners of a diamond shield. The four leaves allude to the numerical designation of the Division as well as the symbolic meaning “Fidelity and Tenacity.”
- The ivy shape will be cut out of the bronze shield allowing the hedge background to provide the green color when viewing the memorial from Arlington Memorial Drive.
- The memorial is approximately six feet from the hedge so that pedestrians can circulate around the memorial. The overall height is approximately 11 feet.

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTION

The Commission approved the design concept of the memorial on March 4, 1999. The Commission requested that the height of the memorial be reduced as not to exceed the height of the holly hedge as to ensure a consistent green background when viewing the memorial from Arlington Drive.

RESPONSE TO COMMISSION ACTION

NPS has submitted a revised plan for the memorial. The revised plan indicates that the height of the memorial has been reduced to the approximate height of the holly hedge.

EVALUATION

- Staff recommends final approval of the plans.
- The revised plans indicate that the height of the proposed memorial has been reduced to approximately eleven feet, the height of the hedge. However, due to the distance of the memorial's vertical element from the hedge, the resulting perspective from Memorial Drive does not present a consistent green background as requested by the Commission. The current proposed height of 11 feet still allows approximately 20 percent of the sculptural element to be perceived as above the top of the hedge.

*COORDINATION*Commission of Fine Arts

The Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) approved the concept for the memorial on January 22, 1999 and concluded that the memorial height should not exceed 11 feet. CFA is scheduled to review the final plans on June 17, 1999.

*CONFORMANCE*Comprehensive Plan

Memorial Drive and Arlington National Cemetery are designated for memorial and Decorative Areas and Parks in the Parks, Open Space and Natural Features Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The proposed memorial is consistent with this use designation. The proposal also is consistent with an applicable policy in the Federal Facilities Element, which specifies:

Memorials to persons or events having strong functional or traditional association with specific areas of the National Capital should be given preference in locations in those areas. Memorials should be designed and sited to be sympathetic to their locations.

National Historic Preservation Act

NPS has initiated Section 106 consultation with the VA SHPO, determining that the proposed project would have *no adverse effect* on cultural resources. The VA SHPO concurred with that determination.

National Environmental Policy Act

NPS has completed its review of this project in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and determined that the project qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion in accordance with its procedures.







